

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 3, replace the third paragraphs, lines 5-9, with a new paragraph as follows:

-- With the inventive method according to which the sealing plates are placed in repeatable ~~stop-and-go~~ go-and-stop steps with a predetermined force and within a predetermined time against the end surfaces of the casting rolls, and are held in the placement ~~stop~~ position for a predetermined time, the wear of the sealing plates and the end surfaces of the casting rolls is noticeably reduced. --.